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DEPARTMENT IO/UNP FOR ANDREW MORRISON AND NEA/ARP FOR ANDREW MACDONALD

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/18/2019 TAGS: <u>PREL UNGA KPAL IS YM</u>

SUBJECT: YEMEN WILL CONTINUE TO VOTE YES ON UNGA

RESOLUTIONS WITH ANTI-ISRAEL BIAS

**REF: STATE 118799** 

Classified By: Ambassador Stephen Seche for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

- 11. (C) PolChief delivered reftel demarche November 18 to ROYG MFA Deputy Director of International Organizations Indrees Al-Shammam. Al-Shammam, speaking frankly, stated that Yemen will continue to vote yes, along with the rest of the Arab countries, on all the resolutions with an anti-Israel bias. He did not believe there would be a reduction in such resolutions any time soon.
- 12. (C) To all Arabs, Al-Shammam explained, Palestine and the plight of the Palestinian people are priority issues. They have hope for change under President Obama, especially since his Cairo speech, but were disappointed when the U.S. and France recently denounced any unilateral Palestinian declaration of independence.
- 13. (C) Al-Shammam, who seemed to understand the futility of the numerous and redundant resolutions (he worked at the UN for three years), said he would try to get permission for the Yemeni delegation to meet and discuss the issues with the U.S. delegation.

SECHE